



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. RTI-104IB
01915/13971US03

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

Grooms, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/722,205

Filed: November 25, 2000

For: "Cortical Bone Cervical Smith-
Robinson Fusion Implant"

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: E. Robert

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date:

October 18, 2002

Donald J. Pochopien
Registration No. 32,167
Attorney for Applicants

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner make the following amendments to the specification and the claims before considering the prosecution on the merits.

In the claims:

Please add the following new claims:

33. A spinal spacer for engagement between vertebrae, comprising:
- a body formed of a cortical bone composition and including a first end, an opposite second end, a superior face defining a superior vertebral engaging surface and an inferior face defining an inferior vertebral engaging surface;
- and at least one of said vertebral engaging surfaces defining a first set of